



Vernal_Comments, BLM_UT <blm_ut_vernal_comments@blm.gov>

December 2017 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

1 message

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To: "UT_Vernal_Comments@blm.gov" <UT_Vernal_Comments@blm.gov>

To whom it may concern,

I would like to comment on the proposed oil and gas lease sales adjacent to Dinosaur National Monument (parcels 69, 70, and 71). I have worked in the oil and gas industry for nearly 40 years and I lived in Vernal Utah for 25 years.

Leasing for oil and gas development adjacent to Dinosaur National Monument is ludicrous. My family has enjoyed many great outings at Dinosaur and always remember it fondly. When we lived in Vernal, we would regularly take visitors to Dinosaur to see the quarry and the views. It is special to us and a lot of others.

There are some places conducive to leasing and development and some that are not. These parcels near the monument are not. The monument is a special place to the area. Many visitors, important to the local economy, come to visit Dinosaur. There are many good reasons to eliminate these parcels:

- The view from the monument will be interrupted. One parcel is a backdrop for tourists taking picture at the monument entrance sign.
- Drilling operations will result in light pollution (I have already noted the light pollution while recently camping in Dinosaur).
- Drilling operations will be noisy.
- Traffic associated with drilling will result in added dust.

Your EA says that there are stipulations that will minimize these issues. My experience tells me that these may help, but the impacts will still be there. Why even take the chance of adversely impacting the monument?

Given the air quality problems in the Uintah Basin, the potential of adverse effects at the Monument, and the stated opposition by the Monument Superintendent, these parcels should be eliminated.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

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